

**LIMAVADY BOROUGH COUNCIL  
COMHAIRLE BHUIRG LÉIM AN MHADAIDH**

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING  
1 JUNE 2009**

Minutes of the annual general meeting held in the Council Offices, 7 Connell Street, Limavady, at 7.00 pm on the above date.

**PRESENT:**

Aldermen G Mullan, J Rankin and G Robinson, Councillors P Butcher, M Carten, B Chivers, M Coyle, L Cubitt, M Donaghy, B Douglas, C Ó hOisín, J F McElhinney, A Robinson and E Stevenson.

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

Committee Clerk and the Chief Executive.

**APOLOGIES:** - Councillor Brolly.

**OUT-GOING MAYOR'S REMARKS:**

Councillor Chivers stated that it had been a great privilege to be elected as Mayor and to represent the people of the Borough over the last year. Before taking nominations for the position of Mayor, she took the opportunity to share her views with members on the last 12 months. She said the time had seemed to pass in the blink of an eye, but at the same time it has been a busy and eventful year.

She outlined that she had hosted various Mayoral receptions and welcomed visitors from home, across the UK and Europe. She had attended numerous events throughout the Borough and had the honour of presenting certificates to many members of the community for their educational, sporting, voluntary and vocational achievements.

Councillor Chivers acknowledged that it has been a difficult year for the Borough due to job losses and the downturn in the economic climate. She said her heart felt thoughts went to the many families who were now struggling due to the lack of jobs in the construction industry.

On a brighter note she indicated that it had given her great pleasure to cut the first sod for the new Civic Centre. She said the centre would be a great addition to the Borough and a place where people could come together and act as a focal point for the town.

Councillor Chivers pointed out that one of the highlights of her term in office had been the whole 'X' Factor experience. She said it had been a delight to see Eoghan Quigg from Dungiven do so well in the competition and this had been a distraction from all of the negative stories in the media about the credit crunch. She wished him and his family all the best for the future.

She stated that being Mayor provided her with the opportunity to meet people from all walks of life and all sections of the community, whether at charitable functions, photo calls or at formal events. No matter where she went, she was treated well.

Councillor Chivers explained that her chosen charities for the year were Multiple Sclerosis, CLIC Sargent and the Northern Ireland Cancer Fund for Children. She said despite the credit crunch, a total of £23,443.00 had been raised. This amount included £15,000 raised by the Gelvin Farmers. She added that her charities were close to her heart and she could not have spent her last days as Mayor in a nicer way than handing over cheques to these charities, along with cheques to local community groups and other worthwhile causes within the Borough.

Councillor Chivers confirmed that the highlight of her last days in office had been when she had tried to conquer her fear of flying by taking a flight in a glider. This last minute appointment had helped raised over £300 for Drumsurn Community Association.

She extended her thanks to those who had supported her during her year in office and to those who had helped her carry out the role of Mayor. She thanked the Chief Executive, Directors and staff, especially Denise, Mark and Edwina from the Chief Executives Department for their hard work and much appreciated assistance. She also thanked her fellow party members and said their support and guidance has been invaluable.

Councillor Chivers took the opportunity to extend her appreciation to the press for their constant and continuing interest in Council work and to their steadfast reporting of meetings which reinforces Council's commitment to openness and accountability.

She said her husband Liam and her children have been a pillar of support and her term in officer would have been a lot more difficult without them at her side. Finally, she said it had been an honour and privilege to serve as Mayor in what had been a busy but interesting year.

On behalf of the SDLP Councillor Coyle congratulated Councillor Chivers on what she had achieved during her year and for reaching out to all sides of the community.

**PARTY NOMINATIONS FOR POSITIONS 2009-2011:**

Using the d'Hondt methodology as used within the assembly, adjusted to reflect current party strength, the following parties were nominated to fill the positions of Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Chairs of Councils standing committees for the 2 year extension period of Council 2009-11.

<b>Position</b>	<b>09/10</b>	<b>10/11</b>
Mayor	SF	SDLP
Deputy Mayor	DUP	UUC
Support Services Committee	SF	SDLP
Environmental Services Committee	SDLP	UUC
Development Services Committee	UUP	SF
Planning & Services Committee	SF	SF

**ELECTION OF MAYOR 2009/2010:**

Councillor Chivers sought nominations for the office of Mayor for 2009/2010.

Councillor Butcher proposed and Councillor Donaghy seconded that Councillor Cathal Ó hOisín be elected to the position of Mayor in 2009/2010. Agreed.

**MAYOR'S REMARKS:**

Councillor Ó hOisín took the Chair and signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office. He thanked those for electing him in Mayor in Irish and in English and said he hoped to be able to work with everyone during his term in office and would have an open hand and an open office.

Councillor Ó hOisín indicated that it was an honour for him to follow in the footsteps of his cousin Michael who was one of the first Sinn Fein Councillor's in the Borough. He said as the first Dungiven-born Republican to be elected as Mayor, he disliked the term 'First Citizen' as he believed that everyone was equal and that he was willing to work and appear in photographs with anyone.

**ELECTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR 2009/2010:**

Councillor Robinson proposed, seconded by Councillor Cubitt that Alderman Robinson be elected as Deputy Mayor for the year 2009/2010. Agreed.

**ELECTION OF ALDERMEN:**

Nominations were sought for three Aldermen to serve for the term of the present Council and the following nominations were agreed:

Alderman Robinson on the proposal of Councillor Robinson, seconded by Councillor Cubitt .

Councillor Coyle on the proposal of Alderman Mullan, seconded by Councillor Carten.

Alderman Rankin on the proposal of Councillor Stevenson, seconded by Councillor Cubitt.

**APPOINTMENT OF STANDING COMMITTEES:**

It was agreed that all 15 members be elected to the following standing committees:

**Support Services Committee:**  
**Environmental Services Committee**  
**Development Committee:**  
**Planning and Services Committee:**

**AUDIT COMMITTEE (4):**

Councillor Butcher, Councillor Cubitt, Alderman Rankin and Alderman Coyle were re-elected to the Audit Committee for the year 2009/2010.

**APPOINTMENT OR NOMINATION OF REPRESENTATIVES TO:**

1. **Aghanloo Community Association (2):** Councillor Stevenson and Councillor Cubitt were elected to serve on this committee.
2. **Ballykelly Community Association (2):** Councillor Cubitt and Councillor Carten were re-elected to serve on this committee.
3. **Binevenagh AONB (1):** Councillor Mullan was nominated to serve on this Forum as a representative from Council. Councillor Ó hOisín would continue to sit on the Forum as a representative of Causeway Coast & Glens Heritage Trust.
4. **Causeway Coast Arts Committee (1):** Councillor Mullan and the Events & Cultural Officer were elected to serve on this committee.
5. **Causeway Coast & Glens Ltd (1):** Councillor Ó hOisín and the Director of Development were elected to serve on this committee.
6. **Causeway Coast & Glens Heritage Trust (1):** Councillor Ó hOisín and the Director of Development were elected to serve on this committee.

7. **Causeway Museum Service (2):** Councillor Mullan and Councillor Cubitt were elected to serve on this committee.
8. **Confederation of European Councillors Executive Committee: (1 National Association of Councillors representative):** Alderman Coyle was re-elected to serve on this committee.
9. **Corporate Gift Sub-Committee (5):** Councillor Chivers, Councillor Mullan, Councillor Robinson, Councillor Cubitt and Alderman Rankin were re-elected to serve on this committee.
10. **Danny Boy Festival Sub Committee (6) (to include Mayor, ex officio and the Chair of Development):** Councillor Ó hOisín, Councillor McElhinney, Councillor Cubitt, Councillor Chivers, Councillor Stevenson and Chair of Development.
11. **Disability Working Group (3):** Alderman Rankin, Alderman Coyle and Councillor Ó hOisín.
12. **Chair District Policing Partnership (9):** Councillor Chivers was nominated on the proposal of Councillor Butcher, seconded by Councillor McElhinney.
13. **Equality Steering Group (6):** Councillor Donaghy, Alderman Coyle, Councillor Butcher, Councillor Chivers and Councillor McElhinney (1 unallocated) were elected to serve on this committee.
14. **Feeny Community Association (3):** Councillor Donaghy and Alderman Coyle (1 unallocated) were elected to serve on this committee.
15. **Foreglen Community Association (2):** Councillor Donaghy and Alderman Coyle were re-elected to serve on the committee.
16. **Forum for Local Government and the Arts (2):** Councillor Mullan and Councillor Ó hOisín, plus Events & Cultural Officer were re-elected to serve on this committee.
17. **Gender Equality Steering Group: (2):** Councillor Chivers and Alderman Coyle were re-elected to serve on this committee.
18. **Greysteel Community Association (2):** Councillor McElhinney and Councillor Carten were re-elected to serve on this committee.
19. **Greysteel Community Enterprises (2):** Councillor McElhinney and Councillor Carten were re-elected to serve on this committee.

20. **Home Accident Prevention Committee (Open to any interested members):** Councillor Carten and Councillor McElhinney were re-elected to serve on this committee
21. **Irish Language Sub-Committee (4): 2SF, 1 SDLP, 1 UUC and 1 officer):** Councillor Butcher, Councillor Ó hOisín, Alderman Coyle and Culture Arts & Tourism Manager were re-elected to serve on this committee, with 1 unallocated seat.
22. **Limavady Community Development Initiative & Advice Services Sub Group (2, plus 1 Officer):** Councillor Cubitt, Councillor Ó hOisín and the Director of Development were re-elected to serve on this committee.
23. **Limavady Community Safety Partnership (2 of which at least 1 should be a member of the DPP):** Alderman Rankin and Alderman Coyle were nominated to the above partnership.
24. **Limavady Road Safety Committee (Open to any interested members):** Councillor Cubitt and Councillor Mullan were re-elected to serve on this committee.
25. **Limavady Sports Advisory Committee (4):** Councillor Carten, Alderman Robinson, Councillor McElhinney and Councillor Ó hOisín were re-elected to serve on this committee.
26. **Magilligan Community Association (2):** Councillor Mullan, Councillor Butcher and Councillor McElhinney were elected to serve on this committee.
27. **Management Committee – Grammar School Pitch (2) plus Director of Development:** Alderman Rankin and Councillor Ó hOisín were re-elected to serve on this committee.
28. **National Association of Councillors (3 plus standby):** Councillor Chivers, Alderman Robinson and Alderman Coyle would re-elected to serve on this committee, with Councillor Robinson as standby.
29. **Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership (2):** Alderman Rankin and Councillor Mullan were elected to serve on this committee.
30. **Northern Corridor Railway Task Force (2):** Councillor Cubitt and Councillor McElhinney were elected to serve on this committee.
31. **Northern Group Building Control Committee (2 plus standby):** Councillor Carten and Alderman Rankin were re-elected to serve on this committee and it was agreed that Councillor McElhinney would continue as act as standby.

32. **Northern Ireland Housing Council (1):** Councillor Carten was re-elected to serve on this committee.
33. **Northern Ireland Local Government Association (4):** Councillor Brolly, Councillor Cubitt, Councillor Chivers and Alderman Coyle were elected to serve on this committee until 2011.
34. **North West Region Cross Border Group (4):** Alderman Coyle, Councillor Chivers, Councillor Ó hOisín and Alderman Rankin were re-elected to serve on this committee until 2011.
35. **North West Region Waste Management Strategy Sub Committee (2):** Councillor Carten and Alderman Rankin were re-elected to serve on this committee until 2011.
36. **North West Region Waste Management Joint Committee (2):** Alderman Rankin and Councillor Carten were elected to serve on this committee.
37. **Peace III Programme (2):** Alderman Rankin and Councillor Carten were elected to serve on this committee.
38. **Reserve Forces and Cadets Association (1):** Councillor Douglas was re-elected to serve on this committee.
39. **Roe Valley Arts & Heritage Committee (2):** Councillor Mullan and Councillor Ó hOisín were elected to serve on this committee.
40. **Roe Valley Chamber of Trade:** It was agreed that this committee would be open to all elected members.
41. **Roe Valley Enterprise (2):** Councillor Mullan, Councillor McElhinney and Alderman Rankin instead of an officer were re-elected to serve on this committee.
42. **Roe Valley Rural Development Ltd (3):** Councillor Butcher, Councillor Carten, Alderman Rankin and Director of Development were elected to sit on this committee.
43. **Rural Development Programme (LAG) (4):** Councillor Carten, Councillor Cubitt, Councillor Butcher were elected to serve on this committee and it was agreed that Councillor Ó hOisín would continue to act as standby.
44. **Somme Advisory Committee (1):** Councillor Douglas was re-elected to serve on this committee until 2011.

45. **Sperrin Tourism Ltd (2):** Councillor Ó hOisín and Alderman Coyle were elected to serve on this committee.
46. **Sustainable Development Working Group:** Councillor Cubitt, Alderman Coyle, Councillor Ó hOisín and 1 officer from each Directorate was nominated to serve on this committee.
47. **Town Twinning Committee (Vigneux & Westport (5):** It was agreed that nominations to the new joint Twinning Committee would be made through the Development Services Committee when the current committees were officially dissolved.
48. **Website Committee (2):** Alderman Coyle and Councillor Cubitt were re-elected to serve on this committee.
49. **Western Group Environmental Health Committee (2 plus standby):** Alderman Rankin and Councillor Carten were re-elected to serve on this committee and it was agreed that Councillor Chivers would act be standby.
50. **Western Area Childcare Partnership (1):** Councillor Ó hOisín was re-elected to serve on this Committee.
51. **Western Education & Library Board (2)** Councillor Brolly and Alderman Coyle were re-elected to service on this committee until 31 December 2009.

**ANY OTHER BUSINESS:**

**Committees Not Renewable at this time:**

- Local Government Staff Commission – new nominations due in November 2009 will be by public appointment
- Transition Committee (2009/11).

**Committees Disbanded:**

- Emblems Steering Group
- Dungiven Community Hall Management Committee
- Limavady Area Partnership
- North West Region Cross Border Group INTERREG IIIA
- Western Health & Social Services Council (new group to be set up whereby nominations will be by public appointment.

**Civic Reception:** It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Carten, seconded by Alderman Robinson that a Civic Reception would be held for William Mitchell,



Postmaster of Ballykelly Post Office on reaching the finals of the Best Post Office awards.

**THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS**  
**(The meeting ended at 7.40 pm)**

**Signed:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Mayor**